

### REMARKS

Claims 3, 4, 7-16, 21-26 and 31-32 are pending in the present application of which claims 3-5, 7-11, 21-26 and 31 are withdrawn. Claim 12 and 15 have been amended so as to be in independent form (see also paragraphs [0101]-[0102] of the specification). Support for new claim 32 is found at pages 16-17 of the present specification. Claim 32 conforms to the elected subject matter.

#### Unity of Invention

Applicant respectfully maintains a traversal of the Unity of Invention Requirement for essentially the same reasons stated in the Response filed October 13, 2009, which reasons are deemed repeated herein.

#### IDS

Applicants note an IDS was filed on January 15, 2010. Consideration of this IDS is respectfully requested.

#### Issues under 35 USC 102(b) and 103(a)

Claims 12, 13 and 16 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Sugimori '006 (US 6,670,006).

Claims 12-16 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Friedrich '946 (US 5,340,946) in view of Sugimori '006.

These rejections are traversed based on the reasons below.

#### Distinctions over Cited References

Sugimori '006 discloses an epoxy resin composition for fiber reinforced plastics which includes (A) a bisphenol A-type epoxy resin, (B) an epoxy resin having oxazolidone rings, and (C) a curing agent which may be an imidazole compound as noted at column 5, lines 21-30. Friedrich '946 discloses an adhesive composition which includes (a) a polymeric resin having a Mn of at least 10,000; and (b) a curing agent.

Both Sugimori '006 and Friedrich '946 fail to disclose or suggest the use of an imidazole silane compound as recited in the presently elected claims 12-16 and 32. There fails to be any


suggestion or basis for a motivation to one skilled in the art to employ an imidazole silane compound as used in the present invention based on the disclosures of Sugimori '066 and Friedrich '946. It is clear that both Sugimori '006 and Friedrich '946 fail to recognize the advantageously improved adhesive properties exhibited when imidazole silane compounds are used, especially with respect to titanium or titanium alloys, as described in paragraphs [0058]-[0064] of the specification. Consequently, the above rejections must be withdrawn.

If any questions arise in the above matters, please contact Applicant's representative, Andrew D. Meikle (Reg. No. 32,868), in the Washington Metropolitan Area at the phone number listed below.

If necessary, the Director is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge any fees required during the pendency of the above-identified application or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448.

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Respectfully submitted,

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